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Putative attorneys for Jill's Office, LLC, Debtor-in-Possession

# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH Central Division

In re

Bankruptcy Case No. 25-21625

JILL'S OFFICE, LLC,

(Chapter 11 (Sub. V))

Honorable Peggy Hunt

[Filed Electronically]

# MOTION FOR INTERIM AND FINAL APPROVAL TO USE CASH COLLATERAL

Jill's Office, LLC (the "**Debtor**"), debtor-in-possession in the above-referenced case, hereby seeks interim and final court approval to use cash collateral as set forth in the budget herein, and to grant replacement liens the Debtor's post-petition accounts as adequate protection to the senior secured creditor. If approved, the Debtor intends to use cash through June 30, 2025 pursuant to the budget below, and grant the Small Business Administration or other creditors a replacement lien in post-petition cash and receivables, to the extent its lien position diminishes between March 27, 2025 and the date of plan confirmation. In support of this motion, the Debtor would show as follows.

# I. Summary of Relief Requested.

The Debtor seeks interim and final Court approval to use cash collateral from the filing date until June 30, 2025. Certain creditors claim a lien on the Debtor's cash, but the Debtor will generate post-petition accounts sufficient that a replacement lien on such accounts will adequately protect the senior creditors. All junior creditors are adequately protected by virtue of the protection afforded the senior creditors.

## II. Jurisdiction.

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A) and (M).
- 2. The Debtor's principal offices and principal place of business are located in Ogden, Utah, within the District of Utah, and, therefore, venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408(1) and 1409.
- 3. The bases for the relief requested herein are sections 105(a), 363, and 364 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") and rules 6003 and 6004 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules").

#### III. Statement of Relevant Facts.

- 4. The Debtor commenced this case on March 27, 2025.
- 5. The Debtor is engaged in the business of providing outside receptionist services to customers in the United States and Canada. The Debtor generates approximately \$480,000 of receivables monthly, and accepts payment on those receivables by processing a credit card on file either on a weekly or monthly basis.

- 6. The Debtor attempted to scale the company rapidly beginning in early 2024, over-hiring in anticipation of an influx of customers, which never materialized. Due the financial burdens occasioned by the over-hiring, the Debtor turned first to daily receivables lenders (the Merchant Cash Advance lenders, or "MCAs," identified below), and later to family resources, in order to stay afloat.
- 7. The Debtor believes that the Small Business Administration (the "SBA") arguably has a perfected security interest in all assets of the Debtor, including proceeds, and therefore has a perfected security interest in cash collateral. The Debtor believes the SBA's lien is the senior lien on its assets, perhaps only subject to a small possessory lien held by Stripe Servicing, Inc. ("Stripe"), which is discussed further below.
  - 8. The Debtor owes the SBA approximately \$645,000.00.
- 9. The Debtor believes that several other creditors, including the MCAs identified by an \*, have perfected junior security interests in all assets of the Debtor, including proceeds, and therefore may also have a perfected security interest in cash collateral, including each of the following:
  - a. Samson MCA LLC.\*
  - b. Northeast Bank.
  - c. Elite Funding.\*
  - d. USA.
  - e. Premium Merchant Funding 26, LLC.\*
  - f. CFT Clear Finance Technology Corp.\*
  - g. Daytona Funding Solutions.\*

- h. Smart Business.\*
- i. King's Funding Group.\*
- 10. Certain other creditors may also be secured, but apparently at most elected to file UCC financing statements through generic intermediaries like CT Corporation, so the financing statements cannot be tied directly to a particular creditor. These creditors include:
  - a. Capital Assist.\*
  - b. Highland Hills.\*
  - c. LevelEx Funding.\*
  - d. Novac Equities.\*
  - e. Newity.\*
  - f. OnDeck.\*
  - g. Funbox.\*
  - h. Finally.\*
  - i. Bill.\*
- 11. Stripe is the Debtor's credit card processor. The vast majority of the Debtor's receivables are generated through credit card payments. Arguably, Stripe has possession of the receivables processed by credit card and may therefore step in front of the SBA in priority by virtue of its perfection by possession of the receivables, rather than perfection by recording. *See legal discussion below*. The Debtor owed Stripe approximately \$9,404.34 on the petition date.
  - 12. The Debtor owns equipment worth approximately \$100,000.00.
  - 13. The Debtor owns no real property.

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14. The Debtor owns accounts receivable worth approximately \$300,000.00, which

regenerate monthly, and should increase in the coming months due to the cyclical nature of

Debtor's business.

15. The Debtor owns intangible assets, including intellectual property and a customer

list, which it values at approximately \$200,000.00.

16. The Debtor believes that there is no equity in the debtor's assets beyond the

amount of debts owed to Stripe and the SBA, and therefore the Debtor believes that the creditors

listed in paragraphs 9.a.-9.i., and in 10.a.-10.i. above are not secured creditors in bankruptcy, and

have no interest in the Debtor's cash collateral.

17. The Debtor believes that as long as it can generate accounts receivable monthly in

the approximate amount of \$480,000.00, it can continue to pay its employees, cover employment

taxes, benefits, and insurance, pay rent, and generate a cash cushion to support anticipated plan

payments to secured and unsecured creditors.

18. The Debtor expects to receive approximately \$300,000.00 in collections from

receivables shortly after April 1, 2025, most of which will be the proceeds of pre-petition

accounts receivable.

19. Noting Stripe's and the SBA's interest in cash collateral, the Debtor has sought an

opportunity to request their permission to use cash collateral as necessary through June 2025, but

so far no agreement has been reached.

20. The Debtor has proposed to use cash collateral pursuant to the following budget,

through June 30, 2023:

April '25 May '25 Jun '25 \$480,000 \$480,000 \$480,000

Cash Inflow

Total	\$443,300	\$413,300	\$413,300
Other	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Possible Mgmt. Comp.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Marketing Costs	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Payroll and Related	\$369,000	\$339,000	\$339,000
Rent	\$21,000	\$21,000	\$21,000
Vendor Costs	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000
Programming Costs	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
Cash Outflow			

- 21. The Debtor seeks permission to deviate from this budget by up to 15% in any category, so long as the total expenditures are not projected to negatively affect the overall projected margin for any month going forward.
- 22. In order to induce Stripe and the SBA to allow the Debtor to use cash collateral through June, the Debtor intends to offer Stripe and the SBA a replacement lien on its postpetition cash and receivables, to the extent Stripe and the SBA's cash collateral position diminishes between March 27, 2025 and the earlier of the date of plan confirmation or June 30, 2025. A small monthly adequate protection payment may also be possible, perhaps paid only to Stripe in April, and only to the SBA in May and June.
- 23. The Debtor's business is highly dependent upon the continued employment of current staff. The Debtor has obligations to the employee health insurer that must be paid next week, and cancellation of the Debtor's health insurance or interruption in its ability to pay employees would present an imminent threat to the business's ability to maintain its workforce and continue as a going concern. Of the amounts identified as necessary expenses in April, the following are imperative through interim approval, to avoid immediate collapse of the Debtor:
  - a. Insurances (workers' comp., property, professional liability): \$5,000

- b. Payroll (and related medical, dental, and vision): \$164,000
- c. Twilio (phone bill): \$10,000
- d. Other monthly bills: \$6,000
- e. Total: \$185,000.00

# IV. Legal Discussion.

## A. Use of Cash Collateral – Bankruptcy Code Section 363(c)(1)

Section 363(c)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that:

- (2) The trustee may not use, sell, or lease cash collateral under paragraph (1) of this subsection unless—
  - (A) each entity that has an interest in such cash collateral consents; or
- (B) the court, after notice and a hearing, authorizes such use, sale, or lease in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Section 363(e), in turn, provides that:

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, at any time, on request of an entity that has an interest in property used, sold, or leased, or proposed to be used, sold, or leased, by the trustee, the court, with or without a hearing, shall prohibit or condition such use, sale, or lease as is necessary to provide adequate protection of such interest.

"Adequate protection" is defined in section 361 to include periodic cash payments, additional or replacement liens, or granting the secured party the "indubitable equivalent" of such secured party's existing interest. 11 U.S.C. § 361(1)-(3).

In the present case, the Debtor intends to continue to operate the business and generate post-petition accounts receivable. The Debtor is prepared to offer a replacement lien in post-petition accounts, in order to adequately protect creditors whose secured positions are otherwise jeopardized by the Debtor's ongoing use of the cash contained in its accounts receivable.

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B. Priority as Between the SBA and Stripe.

A party can perfect a security interest in a deposit account by maintaining control over

the account. Utah Code 70A-9a-314(1). A party that perfects its security interest by taking

control of the account has priority over a party that perfects its security interest only by filing.

Utah Code 70A-9-327(1). Stripe, as the Debtor's credit card processor, has control over the

funds generated when the Debtor charges its customers' credit cards. As such, Stripe likely has

the senior security interest in the Debtor's credit card receipt account, even though it did not file

a UCC financing statement until some time after the SBA filed its financing statement. If the

Debtor is required to make adequate protection payments, the Debtor proposes to pay \$9,404.34

to Stripe in an April adequate protection payment, and \$9,000.00 to the SBA in May and June, as

adequate protection payments.

V. Conclusion.

For the foregoing reasons, Jill's Office, LLC requests interim and final approval of its use

of cash collateral during the months of April, May, and June 2025.

DATED this 29th day of March, 2025.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER

By: /s/ Ted Cundick

T. Edward Cundick

Counsel to Jill's Office, LLC

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing MOTION FOR INTERIM AND FINAL

APPROVAL TO USE CASH COLLATERAL was filed on March 29, 2025 using the Court's

CM/ECF electronic filing system, which sent notice to the following CM/ECF users:

United States Trustee USTPRegion19.SK.ECF@usdoj.gov

David W. Newman tr on behalf of U.S. Trustee United States Trustee

david.w.newman@usdoj.gov,

James.Gee@usdoj.gov;Lindsey.Huston@usdoj.gov;Rinehart.Peshell@usdoj.gov;Rachell
e.D.Hughes@usdoj.gov;Brittany.Dewitt@usdoj.gov

Additionally, the following secured creditors and parties from the Debtor's List of 20 Largest

Unsecured Creditors were served on the same date, via email as follows:

Small Business Administration, Gygi, John S. <u>john.gygi@sba.gov</u> Stripe Servicing, Inc., <u>capital+support@stripe.com</u>

Samson MCA LLC, astrid@bblawpllc.com

Capital Assist, mg@capital-assist.com

CFT Clear Finance Technology Group, payments@clear.com

Daytona Funding Solutions Corp., chris@thedaytonafunding.com

Elite Funding, collections@toptiercap.org

Barket Epstein, ltyras@barketepstein.com

Highland Hills, gabe@mendelberglaw.com

King's Funding Group LLC, Daniil@kingsfundinggroup.com

LevelEx Funding, admin@levelexfunding.com

Novac Equities, office@novacequities.com

Premium Merchant Funding 26, LLC, info@pmfus.com

Smart Business, muretta@tritonrecoveryllc.com

The Boyer Company, <a href="mailto:cameroncook@boyercompany.com">cameroncook@boyercompany.com</a>

Newity, kbassette@newitymarket.com

OnDeck, scooley@enova.com

Funbox, payments@email.funbox.com

Finally, Charles.king@finally.com

Bill, Michael.lang@caine-weiner.com

/s/	Τ.	Edward	Cundick	
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